

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace drawing sheet 6/7 with the attached Replacement Sheet, amending Fig. 6.

Attached: One (1) drawing sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 33, 35, 37 and 38 are independent claims. By this Amendment claims 1, 3, 29 and 33-38 are amended. No new matter is added. Support for the amendments may be found at least at paragraph [0054] of the published US patent application 2004/0199645.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because Fig. 6 allegedly lacks descriptive labels. As Fig. 6 is amended to include labels, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Example Embodiment

In an example embodiment of the subject matter of the present application as shown in Fig. 1, the network may include a number of identical or very similar access points (AP) or terminals. To access the network, each device can be connected to any unused access point in the network through a specific gateway. The gateways in FIG. 1 have two interfaces: an identical interface to any access point in the network and an application-specific interface. Some examples of applications are different standards of composite audio, different standards of composite video (e.g. PAL B, PAL D, NTSC), S-video, RGB, USB, Ethernet, etc. Additionally, gateways in FIG. 1 may be divided into two categories: transmitters (Tx) and receivers (Rx). A Tx gateway is used for connection of a transmitter, e.g. VCR 114 in FIG. 1, to the network. An Rx gateway in the other hand is used for connection of a receiver, e.g. TV 125 in FIG. 1, to the network. To connect a transmitter to one or more receivers, e.g. a PAL B VCR to several PAL B TV-sets, one Tx gateway (e.g. PAL B Tx gateway) and one or several Rx gateways of the same kind (e.g. PAL B Rx gateways) are used. This means that each transmitter in the network presented in FIG. 1 can be connected to as many receivers as the number of the currently unused access points in the network allows. As it can be seen in the figure, there are no specific (central) control units included in the present invention. The control logic is instead distributed into all access points and coupled gateways.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 3-7, 10-20 and 23-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,480,748 to Gerszberg, et al. (Gerszberg). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

Gerszberg fails to disclose or suggest, a multimedia network system for inter-connecting a number of receiving and transmitting digital and/or analogous devices, the network system comprising a transmission media network; a number of receiving and/or transmitting terminals connected to said transmission media network and to be connected to said digital and/or analogous devices; and application specific connector arrangements for connecting said digital and/or analogous devices to said terminals, wherein at least one of said connector arrangements is arranged to transmit and/or receive data, at least one of said terminals is arranged to transmit and/or receive data, said at least one connector arrangement containing data at least about identification, and each of said terminals are capable of both transmitting to and receiving from said connector arrangements at least one of audio and video traffic, as recited in independent claim 1, or the similar features in independent claims 33, 35, 37 and 38.

Gerszberg relates to a platform for providing services to telecommunications and cable service subscribers. In Gerszberg, an intelligent services director (ISD) or integrated residential gateway (IRG) 22 is connected to a number of devices, such as a digital phone 121, video phone 130, audio 122 and a set top box 131 (Fig. 2). The ISD/IRG 22 is connected to the devices using, for example, existing analog phone lines 15-1 to 15-4 or existing coaxial cable wires (col. 5, line 57-col. 6, line 5).

It is alleged in the Office Action that Gerszberg discloses “a number of receiving and/or transmitting terminals” at col. 4, lines 27-47. It is further alleged that Gerszberg discloses “application specific connector arrangements” at col. 12, lines 63-67 and col. 13, lines 1-44.

In rejecting claims for want of novelty, the examiner must cite the best references at his or her command. When a reference is complex or shows or describes inventions other than that claimed by the applicant, the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as practicable. The pertinence of each reference, if not apparent, must be clearly explained and each rejected claim specified (37 CFR §1.104). In the cited sections of columns 4, 12 and 13, numerous structural features are identified or discussed in generalities, thus it is unclear which of the many features the Examiner believes anticipates the claims. Applicant respectfully requests that the allegedly anticipating structure of Gerszberg be clearly identified.

Further, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Gerszberg of an application specific connector arrangement for connecting a number of digital and/or analogous devices. Moreover, Gerszberg is silent regarding terminals (access point) capable of both receiving and transmitting at least one of audio and video traffic to a connected application specific connector arrangement (gateway).

As Gerszberg fails to disclose all of the features recited in the amended claims, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 2, 8, 9 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gerszberg in view of US Patent 7,09,951 to Laksano. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons detailed below.

Claims 2, 8, 9 and 21 are allowable for their dependency on independent claim 1 for the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features recited therein as Laksano fails to overcome the deficiencies of Gerszberg. For example, in Laksano a client module transmits control traffic (request for DVD, TV, etc) in the reverse link to a multimedia server and then receives the A/V traffic from the multimedia server in a forward link. As shown in Fig. 5 of Laksano, the multimedia source can only be plugged in to the media server 132 and their client modules 134-142 can only receive the A/V forward link traffic. Thus, Laksano fails to disclose or suggest a terminal capable of both receiving and transmitting at least one of audio and video traffic to a connected application specific arrangement.

CONCLUSION

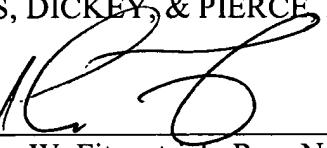
In view of the above remarks and amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending objections and rejections has been addressed and overcome, placing the present application in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John W. Fitzpatrick, Reg. No. 41,018, at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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